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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/336,031	06/18/1999	KEVIN CURTIS	2698/36	7183

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KENYON & KENYON
ONE BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10004

EXAMINER
COLBERT, ELLA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3624	

DATE MAILED: 09/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/336,031	CURTIS ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Ella Colbert	3624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>27 June 2005</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *12-15,18-30,33-36,39,40 and 43-49* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *12-15, 18-30, 33-36, 39, 40, and 43-49* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 12-15, 19-30, 33-36, 39, 40, and 43-49 are pending. Claims 12, 25, 43-

49 have been amended in this communication filed 06/27/05 entered as Response After

Non-Final Action and Request for Extension of Time.

2.   The 35 USC 101 Rejection for claims 12-15, 18-30, 33-36, and 43-49 has been

overcome by Applicants' amendment and is hereby withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 12 –15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

(US 6,122,635) Burakoff et al, hereafter Burakoff in view of (US 6,236,980 B1) Reese.

With respect to claim 12, Burakoff teaches, receiving, at a computer, an

information element and at least an input symbol (col. 7, lines 5-15) and storing at least

the parent identifier and the information element so that the parent identifier is linked to

the information element (col. 4, lines 52-65). Burakoff did not teach, normalizing the

input symbol formatted according to a predetermined structure or searching a master

symbol database using a normalized symbol to find a matching master symbol and

linked parent identifier. Reese discloses, normalizing the input symbol to generate a

normalized symbol formatted according to a predetermined structure (col. 14, lines 22-

34) and searching a master symbol database using a normalized symbol to find a

matching master symbol and linked parent identifier (col.16, lines 20-34 and col. 17,

lines 45-50). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to normalize the input symbol to generate a normalized symbol formatted according to a predetermined structure and to use the normalized symbol to search the master symbol database to find the matching master symbol and to combine Burakoff's processing the symbol and storing a parent identifier with Reese's normalized symbol and normalizing the input symbol formatted according to a predetermined structure and using the normalized symbol to search a master symbol database to find the matching master symbol because such a modification in Burakoff would allow a user to enter the ticker symbol with the parent ID being the association found within the database.

With respect to claim 13, Burakoff teaches, processing the input symbol to generate the normalized symbol includes the step applying a set of character rules to the input symbol (col. col. 7, lines 41-50). Burakoff did not teach the symbol is a normalized symbol. Reese teaches, a normalized symbol (col. 14, lines 22-34, col. 16, lines 20-34, and col. 17, lines 45-50). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a normalized symbol and to use the normalized symbol to find the matching master symbol and to combine Burakoff's processing the symbol and storing a parent identifier with Reese's normalized symbol because such a modification in Burakoff would allow a user to enter the ticker symbol with the parent ID being the association found within the database.

With respect to claim 14, Burakoff teaches, processing the symbol to generate the master symbol includes the step of applying a set of process rules to the symbol (col. 3, lines 2-13).

With respect to claim 15, Burakoff teaches, the at least one information element is a document (col. 3, lines 38-51).

5.   Claims 18-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over
(US 6,122,635) Burakoff et al, hereafter Burakoff in view of (US 6,236,980 B1) Reese
and further in view of ((US 5,940,843) Zucknovich et al, hereafter Zucknovich.

With respect to claim 18, Burakoff teaches, each master symbol refers to a
security issued by a company (col. 7, lines 35-40).

With respect to claim 19, Burakoff and Reese did not teach, the symbol template
includes a root symbol field referring to the name of a security and a source symbol field
referring to a country in which the security is traded.   Zucknovich discloses, the symbol
template includes a root symbol field referring to the name of a security and a source
symbol field referring to a country in which the security is traded (col. 10, lines 33-65). It
would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention
was made to have the symbol template include a root symbol field referring to the name
of a security and a source symbol field referring to a country in which the security is
traded and to combine Burakoff's process rules to the symbol and Reese's normalized
symbol with Zucknovich's symbol template includes a root symbol field referring to the
name of a security and a source symbol field referring to a country in which the security
is traded because such a modification in Burakoff and Reese would allow Burakoff 's
and Reese's system to have a primary field for the name of the security and another
field for the country. The root is known in the art as being the main or uppermost level
in a hierarchically organized set of information. The root is known as the point from
which subsets (in this case source symbol fields) branch in a logical sequence that
moves from a broader focus to narrower perspectives.

With respect to claim 20, With respect to claim 9, Burakoff teaches, the step of
storing at least one information element includes the steps of generating an information
element identifier, storing the information element identifier and the parent identifier so

that the parent identifier is linked to the information element identifier, and storing the information element and the information element identifier so that the information element identifier is linked to the information element (col. 3, lines 29-37 and lines 52-65, col. 4, lines 1-10, and col. 8, lines 43-47).

With respect to claim 21, Burakoff teaches, each symbol segment comprises an ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) string (col. 9, lines 30-40).

With respect to claim 22, Burakoff and Reese did not teach, the parent identifier is linked to the information element identifier in a relational database. Zucknovich discloses, the parent identifier is linked to the information element identifier in a relational database (col. 7, lines 5-15). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the parent identifier linked to the information element identifier in a relational database and to combine Burakoff's master symbol linked to the parent identifier and Reese's input symbol with Zucknovich's parent identifier linked to the information element identifier in a relational database because such a modification in Burakoff and Reese would allow Burakoff 's and Reese's system to have a relational database that allows field searching. Relational databases are well known in the database art as being a database that stores information in tables - rows and columns of data - and conducts searches using data in specified columns of one table to find additional data in another table. In a relational database, the rows of a table represent records (collections of information about separate items) and the columns represent fields (particular attributes of a record).

With respect to claim 23, Burakoff and Zucknovich did not teach, if the normalized symbol contains an unresolved segment, searching a contributor database to find a predominant use segment and assigning the predominant use segment to the

unresolved segment. Reese discloses, if the normalized symbol contains an unresolved segment, searching a contributor database to find a predominant use segment and assigning the predominant use segment to the unresolved segment (col. 26, lines 14-24, fig. 10C(220) and col. 19, lines 3-17). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a normalized symbol contain an unresolved segment searching a contributor database to find a predominant use segment and to assign the predominant use segment to the unresolved segment and to combine Burakoff's input symbol and parent identifier and Reese's relational database with Reese's normalized symbol containing an unresolved segment, searching a contributor database to find a predominant use segment and assigning the predominant use segment to the unresolved segment because such a modification in Burakoff and Zucknovich would allow a user to enter the ticker symbol with the parent ID being the association found within the database and to search for another symbol/abbreviation in the database.

With respect to claim 24, Burakoff and Zucknovich did not teach, if the normalized symbol is not found in the master symbol database, searching a database using the input symbol and retrieving a parent identifier linked to the input symbol. Reese discloses, if the normalized symbol is not found in the master symbol database, searching a database using the input symbol and retrieving a parent identifier linked to the input symbol in col. 14, lines 22-34, col. 16, lines 20-34, col. 17, lines 45-50, and col. 39, lines 23-42. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a normalized symbol not found in the master symbol database to search a database using the input symbol and retrieving a parent identifier linked to the input symbol and to combine Burakoff's input symbol and Zuchnovich's symbol field with Reese's normalized symbol not found in the master

symbol database to search a database using the input symbol and retrieving a parent

identifier linked to the input symbol because such a modification in Burakoff and

Zucknovich would allow Burakoff's and Zucknovich's system to enter a ticker symbol

(an input symbol) and to use the association found within the database to search for the

parent identifier symbol.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7.   Claims 25-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

(US 6,122,635) Burakoff et al, hereafter Burakoff in view of (US 6,236,980 B1) Reese.

With respect to claim 25, Burakoff teaches, receiving, at the computer, an input

symbol (col. 7, lines 51-57); searching an information element database to find an

information element linked with the parent identifier and retrieving the information

element linked to the parent identifier (col. 3, lines 29-30 and lines 39-45, col. 4, lines

15-19, and col. 10, lines 19-51). Burakoff did not teach, normalizing the input symbol to

generate a normalized symbol formatted according to a predetermined structure and

searching a master symbol database using the normalized symbol to find a matching

master symbol and a parent identifier linked to the master symbol. Reese disclosed,

normalizing the input symbol to generate a normalized symbol formatted according to a

predetermined structure and searching a master symbol database using the normalized

symbol to find a matching master symbol and a parent identifier linked to the master

symbol (col. 14, lines 22-34, col. 16, lines 20-34, col. 17, lines 45-50). It would have

been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to normalize the input symbol to generate a normalized symbol formatted according to a predetermined structure and to use the normalized symbol to search a master symbol database and to find the matching master symbol and to combine Burakoff's processing the symbol and storing a parent identifier with Reese's normalized symbol and using the normalized symbol to search a master symbol database to find the matching master symbol because such a modification in Burakoff would allow a user to enter the ticker symbol with the parent ID being the association found within the database.

With respect to claim 26, Burakoff did not teach, determining whether the input symbol includes an unresolved segment and if the input symbol contains an unresolved segment, searching a client database to find a client preference segment, and assigning the client preference segment to the unresolved segment. Reese discloses, determining whether the input symbol includes an unresolved segment and if the input symbol contains an unresolved segment, searching a client database to find a client preference segment, and assigning the client preference segment to the unresolved segment (col. 19, lines 3-17 and col. 26, lines 14-24). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to determine whether the input symbol includes an unresolved segment and if the input symbol contains an unresolved segment, searching a client database to find a client preference segment, and assigning the client preference segment to the unresolved segment and to combine Burakoff's receiving an input symbol and searching a database with Reese's determining whether the input symbol includes an unresolved segment and if the input symbol contains an unresolved segment, searching a client database to find a client preference segment, and assigning the client preference segment to the unresolved segment because such a modification in Burakoff would allow a user to enter the ticker

symbol (an input symbol) and to find an association within the database to find the user's preferred symbol. This claim is also rejected for the similar rationale given for claim 25.

With respect to claim 27, Burakoff teaches, processing the input symbol to generate the normalized symbol includes applying a set of character rules to the input symbol in col. col. 7, lines 41-50. Burakoff did not teach a normalized symbol. Reese discloses, a normalized symbol (col. 14, lines 22-34, col. 16, lines 20-34, and col. 17, lines 45-50). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a normalized symbol and to use the normalized symbol to find the matching master symbol and to combine Burakoff's processing the symbol and storing a parent identifier with Reese's normalized symbol and using the normalized symbol to find the matching master symbol because such a modification in Burakoff would allow a user to enter the ticker symbol with the parent ID being the association found within the database.

With respect to claim 28, Burakoff teaches, processing the input symbol to generate a normalized symbol comprises applying a set of process rules (col. 3, lines 2-13); processing the input symbol to generate the normalized symbol includes applying a set of character rules to the input symbol (col. col. 7, lines 41-50). Burakoff did not teach a normalized symbol. Reese discloses, a normalized symbol (col. 14, lines 22-34, col. 16, lines 20-34, and col. 17, lines 45-50). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a normalized symbol and to use the normalized symbol to find the matching master symbol and to combine Burakoff's processing the symbol and storing a parent identifier with Reese's normalized symbol and using the normalized symbol to find the matching master

symbol because such a modification in Burakoff would allow a user to enter the ticker

symbol with the parent ID being the association found within the database.

With respect to claim 29, Burakoff teaches, the information element is a

document (col. 1, lines 28-40).

8.   Claims 30 and 33-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over (US 6,122,635) Burakoff et al, hereafter Burakoff in view of (US 6,236,980 B1)

Reese and further in view of view of ((US 5,940,843) Zucknovich et al, hereafter

Zucknovich.

With respect to claim 30, Burakoff and Reese did not teach, each master symbol

is structured according to a symbol template containing at least one symbol field.

Zucknovich discloses, each master symbol is structured according to a symbol template

containing at least one symbol field (col. 14, lines 23-66 and col. 15, lines 1-5). It would

have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was

made to have each master symbol structured according to a symbol template containing

at least one symbol field and to combine Burakoff's processing a symbol with

Zucknovich's each master symbol structured according to a symbol template containing

at least one symbol field because such a modification in Burakoff would allow Burakoff

to have preset templates for a user or a group of users from a particular company or

geographic are and to have the template file opened for the characters to be inserted

into the template. Templates are well known in the art for the purpose of being a

predesigned document that contains formatting and in many cases, generic text.

With respect to claim 33, Burakoff teaches, each master symbol refers to a

security issued by a company in col. 7, lines 35-40. Zucknovich teaches, each master

symbol refers to a security issued by a company in col.2, lines 55-61.

With respect to claim 34, Burakoff did not teach, the symbol template includes a root symbol field referring to the name of a security and a source symbol field referring to a country in which the security is traded. Zucknovich teaches, the symbol template includes a root symbol field referring to the name of a security and a source symbol field referring to a country in which the security is traded in col. 10, lines 33-65. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the symbol template include a root symbol field referring to the name of a security and a source symbol field referring to a country in which the security is traded and to combine Burakoff's process rules to the symbol with Zucknovich's the symbol template include a root symbol field referring to the name of a security and a source symbol field referring to a country in which the security is traded because such a modification in Burakoff would allow Burakoff 's system to have a primary field for the name of the security and another field for the country. The root is known in the art as being the main or uppermost level in a hierarchically organized set of information. The root is known as the point from which subsets (in this case source symbol fields) branch in a logical sequence that moves from a broader focus to narrower perspectives.

With respect to claim 35, Burakoff teaches, each symbol segment comprises an ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) string in col. 9, lines 30-40. Zucknovich teaches, each symbol segment comprises an ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) string in col. 7, lines 16-25.

With respect to claim 36, Burakoff did not teach, the parent identifier is linked to the information element identifier in a relational database. Zucknovich teaches, the parent identifier is linked to the information element identifier in a relational database in col. 7, lines 5-15. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the parent identifier linked to the information

element identifier in a relational database and to combine Burakoff's master symbol

linked to the parent identifier with Zucknovich's parent identifier linked to the information

element identifier in a relational database because such a modification in Burakoff

would allow Burakoff's system to have a relational database that allows field searching.

Relational databases are well known in the database art as being a database that

stores information in tables - rows and columns of data - and conducts searches using

data in specified columns of one table to find additional data in another table. In a

relational database, the rows of a table represent records (collections of information

about separate items) and the columns represent fields (particular attributes of a

record).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

10.   Claims 39 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over (US 6,055,538) Kessenich et al, hereafter Kessenich in view of (US 5,819,271)

Mahoney et al, here after Mahoney.

With respect to claim 39, Kessenich teaches, a storage device (col. 5, line 54-

col. 6, line 17 and fig. 1) storing a master symbol database and a document database

(col. 9, line 56-col. 10, line 34), the master symbol database storing master symbols,

wherein each master symbol is linked to a parent identifier (col. 4, lines 37-40) and the

document database storing documents linked to a parent identifier; a network interface

(col. 6, line 66-col. 7, line 5); a processor (col. 4, lines 62-65). Kessenich did not

expressly disclose a processor. However, since there are interconnected computers

(col. 4, lines 62-65) it would have been inherent to have a processor in the computers

for the purpose of processing information.

With respect to claim 40, this dependent claim is rejected for the similar rationale

as given for claim 38.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

12.   Claims 43-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Burakoff in view of (US 6,236,980) Reese.

With respect to claim 43, Burakoff teaches, receiving, at a computer, an

information element and at least an input symbol (col. 7, lines 5-15); and storing at least

the parent identifier and the information element so that the parent identifier is linked to

the information element (col. 3, lines 29-30 and lines 39-45, col. 4, lines 15-19, and col.

10, lines 19-51).

Burakoff did not teach, normalizing the input symbol, based on a historical pattern of a

contributor of the information element, to generate a normalized symbol and searching

a master symbol database using the normalized symbol to find a matching master

symbol and linked parent identifier. Reese discloses, normalizing the input symbol,

based on a historical pattern of a contributor of the information element, to generate a
normalized symbol and searching a master symbol database using the normalized
symbol to find a matching master symbol and linked parent identifier (col. 16, lines 20-
34 and col. 17, lines 45-50). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in
the art at the time the invention was made to normalize the input based on a historical
pattern of a contributor of the information element, to generate a normalized symbol and
to search a master symbol database using the normalized symbol to find a matching
master symbol and linked parent identifier and to combine Burakoff's receiving an
information element, storing the parent identifier and the information element with
Reese's normalizing the input symbol, based on a historical pattern of a contributor of
the information element, to generate a normalized symbol and searching a master
symbol database using the normalized symbol to find a matching master symbol and
linked parent identifier because such a modification would allow Burakoff to allow a user
to enter the ticker symbol with the parent ID being the association found within the
database.

With respect to claim 44, Burakoff teaches, receiving an input symbol (col. 7,
lines 5-15) and storing at least the parent identifier and the information element so that
the parent identifier is linked to the information element (col. 4, lines 52-65).
Burakoff did not teach, normalizing the input symbol, based on a preference of a
contributor of the information element, to generate a normalized symbol searching a
master symbol database using the normalized symbol to find a matching master symbol
and linked parent identifier. Reese discloses, normalizing the input symbol, based on a
preference of a contributor of the information element, to generate a normalized symbol
(col. 14, lines 22-34) and searching a master symbol database using the normalized
symbol to find a matching master symbol and linked parent identifier (col. 16, lines 20-

34 and col. 17, lines 45-50). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to normalize the input symbol, based on a preference of a contributor of the information element, to generate a normalized symbol searching a master symbol database using the normalized symbol to find a matching master symbol and linked parent identifier and to combine Burakoff's receiving an input symbol and storing a parent identifier with Reese's normalized input symbol, based on a preference of a contributor of the information element, to generate a normalized symbol searching a master symbol database using the normalized symbol to find a matching master symbol and linked parent identifier and to modify in Burakoff because such a modification would allow Burakoff to allow a user to enter the ticker symbol with the parent ID being the association found within the database.

With respect to claim 45, this independent claim is rejected for the similar rationale as for claim 43.

With respect to claim 46, this independent claim is rejected for the similar rationale given for claims 43 and 45.

With respect to claim 47, Burakoff teaches, receiving, at a computer, an input symbol (col. 7, lines 5-15); searching an information element database to find an information element linked with the parent identifier (col. 3, lines 29-30 and lines 39-45, col. 4, lines 15-19 , and col. 10, lines 19-51) and retrieving the information element linked to the parent identifier (col. 17, lines 45-50). Burakoff did not teach, normalizing the input symbol, based on an identification of a submitter of the input symbol, to generate a normalized symbol and searching a master symbol database using the normalized symbol to find a matching master symbol and a parent identifier linked to the master symbol. Reese discloses, normalizing the input symbol, based on an identification of a submitter of the input symbol, to generate a normalized symbol (col.

14, lines 22-34) and searching a master symbol database using the normalized symbol to find a matching master symbol and a parent identifier linked to the master symbol (col. 16, lines 20-34 and col. 17, lines 45-50). This independent claim is rejected for the similar rationale as given above for claim 45.

With respect to claim 48, this independent claim is rejected for the similar rationale given above for claims 45 and 47.

With respect to claim 49, this independent claim is rejected for the similar rationale given above for claims 47 and 48.

Response to Arguments

13.   Applicant's arguments filed 06/27/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Issue no. 1: Applicants' argue: Mahoney does not describe a "processor, which" "normalizes the input symbol to obtain a normalized input symbol formatted according to a predetermined structure" or "searches the symbol database using the normalized input symbol to find a matching master symbol and a linked parent identifier" or "each master symbol is structured according to a symbol template containing at least one symbol field" or that "each master symbol includes at least one symbol segment corresponding respectively to the at least one symbol field defined by the symbol template" and Kessenich does not describe these limitations has been considered but is not persuasive. Response: Mahoney does not teach these elements. However, it is interpreted that Kessenich does teach (describe), "processor" in col. 4, lines 62-65 which "normalizes the input symbol to obtain a normalized input symbol formatted according to a predetermined structure" or "searches the symbol database using the

normalized input symbol to find a matching master symbol and a linked parent identifier"

or "each master symbol is structured according to a symbol template containing at least

one symbol field" or that "each master symbol includes at least one symbol segment

corresponding respectively to the at least one symbol field defined by the symbol

template" as rejected above in claim 39. Kessenich did not expressly disclose a

processor. However, since there are interconnected computers (col. 4, lines 62-65) it

would have been inherent to have a processor in the computers for the purpose of

processing information.

Inquiries

14.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Ella Colbert whose telephone number is 571-272-6741. -

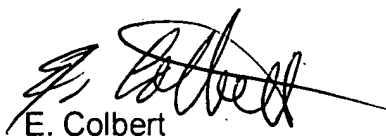The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 6:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on 571-272-6747. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/E. Colbert/

September 8, 2005